

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ACDA-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /096 W

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R 031501Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 803

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN NY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 10055

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, ET

SUBJECT: WORLD PEACE COUNCIL VISIT

SUMMARY. THREE MEMBER DELEGATION OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL (WPC) HAS COMPLETED EIGHT DAY VISIT TO ADDIS ABABA (AUG. 26-SEPT. 2). NEWSPAPERS GAVE FRONTPAGE COVERAGE THROUGHOUT STAY. DELEGATION RECEIVED BY PROMINENT ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING FONMIN KIFLE WODAJO, PMAC MEMBER MAJOR BERHANU BAYEH, AND NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND SETTLEMENT ZEGEYE ASFAW. DELEGATION HAD TO COME UP WITH SOME CAREFUL DOUBLETALK TO EXPLAIN WHY WPC HAD SUPPORTED SECESSIONIST ERITREAN MOVEMENT INHPAST, BUT NOW CONSIDERED SAME MOVEMENT REACTIONARY. END SUMMARY.

1. WORLD PEACE COUNCIL DELEGATION INCLUDED MR. JOE
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JELE, IDENTIFIED AS SECRETARY OF WPC AND FREEDOM FIGHTER OF AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AZANIA (SOUTH AFRICA), MR. MAKSUDORF LATEEF, MEMBER SOVIET PEACE COMMITTEE PRESIDUM, AND MR. MATTI ISOVIITA, TOP FOREIGN

AFFAIRS OFFICIAL OF FINLAND. DURING EIGHT DAY MISSION THEY EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH FONMIN KIFLE, AG & SETTLEMENT MINISTER ZEGEY, MIN & PERMSEC OF WORKS & HOUSING DANIEL TADESSE AND TESFAYE WORKU RESPECTIVELY, AND CHAIRMAN OF PMAC POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, MAJORHBERHANU BAYEH. THROUGHOUT VISIT DELEGATION WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TZSFAYE TADESSE, MIDDLE EAST AND ASIAN DEPARTMENT, MOFA.

2. MOST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING WAS WITH MAJ. BERHANU. RANGE OF TOPICS INCLUDED SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERATION, ERITREA, DJIBOUTI, INTERNAL EPMG PROGRAMS AND WORLD PEACE. JELE IS QUOTED AS GOING THROUGH SOME TORTUOUS LOGIC TO EXPLAIN WHY WPC PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED ERITREAN SECESSION MOVEMENT BUT NOW VIEWED IT AS REACTIONARY BECAUSE IT OPPOSED A REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT AND AGAINST NATIONAL UNITY. THE DELEGATION OFFERED EPMG ASSURANCES THAT THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL WOULD WORK TO POPULARIZE AND MOBILIZE SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT AND "IN PARTICULAR (FOR) THE PEACEFUL POLICIES AND THE INITIATIVES THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY THIS GOVERNMENT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM IN THE ERITREAN REGION AND TO CLARIFY THE MINDS OF THOSE WHO ARE STILL MISGUIDED ABOUT THIS PROBLEM." BERHANU IN TURN REAFFIRMED ETHIOPIAN SUPPORT AND COOPERATION FOR WPC EFFORTS TOWARD GLOBAL PEACE AND USED OPPORTUNITY TO PUT IN PLUG FOR ETHIOPIAN POSITION FOR AN INDEPENDENT DJIBOUTI.
TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 16 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PFOR, VISITS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS10055
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760336-0556
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197609108/baaaeswv.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <09 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORLD PEACE COUNCIL VISIT
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ET, WPC
To: STATE INFO ASMARA
HELSINKI
JOHANNESBURG
MOGADISCIO
MOSCOW
NAIROBI

PEKING
USUN NY

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006